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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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10-23-1925

## Justice (Vol. 7, Iss. 43)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 7, Iss. 43)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteous-  
ness I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."

—Job 27:5

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers  
of the world  
unite! You  
have nothing to  
lose but your  
chains."

Vol. VII. No. 43.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1925

PRICE 3 CENTS

## Election of Joint Board Manager and Business Agents Next Tuesday, October 27th

Locals 2, 3, 9, 10, 22, 23, 35, 48, 82 and 89 Will Take Part in the Voting — Election Committee Fixes Wages for New Officers—Joseph Fish Elected by New York Joint Board as Convention Delegate — Louis Hyman Nominated for General Manager.

At the meeting of the New York Joint Board, last Friday, October 16th, the committee of 7, appointed at the previous meeting to prepare new rules and regulations for the election of Joint Board officers, rendered a report.

It was decided to hold an election for business agents and for a general manager of the Joint Board on Tuesday, October 27th.

Balloting will continue all day, from 7 in the morning until 8 in the evening in the following places:

In all the offices of the Joint Board:  
Main office, 130 East 25th Street;  
Downtown office: 33 2nd Avenue;  
Harlem office: 165 East 121st Street;  
Brooklyn office: 165 Montrose Ave.;  
Brownsville office: 219 Sackman St.

In the office of Local 22, 16 West 21st Street;

In the office of Local 48, 121 East 14th Street;

Dryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue.

Members in good standing belonging to Locals 2, 3, 9, 10, 22, 23, 35, 48, 82 and 89 may take part in the balloting. The Joint Board expects all the members of these locals to vote in this important election.

The Joint Board debated a majority and a minority reports on the manner of procedure in this election. The majority report, brought in by six members of this committee, favored a general election, i. e., one ballot for all the locals. In this event, dressmakers would be in a position to vote for cloakmakers and vice versa. The ground advanced was that in a central body like the Joint Board one ballot for all candidates should prevail.

The minority report, brought in by one of the committee, Vice-president Ninfo, favored election by individual locals of their quotas of officers, i. e., cutters voting for their own men, tailors members choosing their own officers.

etc., etc. Pres. Sigman made a strong appeal for the report of the majority. The vote stood as follows: for the majority report 32 votes; for the minority—9 votes.

The report of the committee recommended that announcement be made at once in the general press that applications for business agents would be accepted on Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday, October 19, 20 and 21st, and that the election and objection committee begin its sessions on Thursday to examine the fitness of the candidates. This committee should consist of the general officers of the International, the managers of the locals, the Board of Directors, and of a subcommittee of the Committee of 15.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Cloak and Dress Pressers Name Officers for Local 35

Resignations of Breslaw and Old Executive Board Already in Force—Section Meetings Under Supervision of President Sigman and Secretary Baroff.

The storm in Local 35 appears to be at an end, and order will soon, it is hoped, be restored in the pressers' organization of New York City.

Brother Joseph Breslaw, the manager of the local, insisted that the executive board of the pressers' body, accept his resignation and he quit his office last Saturday. The executive board of Local 35 were just as insistent upon resigning and their resignations also became effective. For the moment, the local is practically under the supervision of the General Office and Brother Slutsky is temporarily in charge of it, until an election is held.

Last Wednesday, October 21st, two general member meetings took place in the Pressers' organization to nominate officers. The meeting of the cloak pressers was held in Webster Hall and was presided over by President Sigman, who is a member of Local 35 and was one of its first builders and organizers. The meeting of the dress pressers took place in Beethoven Hall

and was under the supervision of Secretary Baroff of the I. L. G. W. U., one of the pioneer organizers of the dress trade in New York City.

The order of the day at both meetings was the following: Nominations for manager-secretary, nominations for executive board delegates, nominations for delegates to the International convention, and the election of an election and objection committee.

Brother Breslaw, former manager of Local 35, issued the following statement to the press:

"To all members of Local 35:  
"Not having any desire to indulge in hair-splitting discussions whether or not the last meetings of Local 35 accepted my resignation, I demanded from the executive board last Wed-

## Important Shop Strike in Montreal

WORKERS OF REGENT GARMENT COMPANY OUT

The Joint Board of the Montreal Cloakmakers' Union declared last week, a strike in the factory of the Regent Garment Manufacturing Co., 232 St. Catherine street West, Jacobs Building.

The shop is one of the biggest in the city, and the local trade is keenly interested in the clash. The Cloakmakers' Joint Board issued the following statement in connection with the strike to the local labor press:

"To all cloakmakers in Montreal:  
"A strike has been declared in the shop of the Regent Garment Co. This firm violated its agreement with the workers, and while giving only a day's or two days' of work to its inside people was sending out its garments to be made up in contractor shops. The firm's intention, obviously, was to 'teach the workers a lesson.'"

"The Union retaliated with the only weapon in its possession and called the men out on strike. Now the firm is trying to lure other workers into its shop to help it finish the season. We know, of course, that the cloakmakers of Montreal will not be dragged into this shop to scab upon their fellow workers. The firm should be taught to respect its contracts, and the members of our organization may be relied upon to give it this lesson."

nesday to accept it and that it take effect on October 17th.

"The executive board complied with my request and my term thus came to an end on that day.

"The executive board at the same time appointed a committee to supervise the local and to decide upon a further course of action."

## Designers Flect Officers and Delegates To Convention This Saturday

Meeting Will Be Held in Pennsylvania Hotel

The United Designers in the Ladies' Wear Industry, Local 45 of the I. L. G. W. U., will have a member meeting next Saturday afternoon, October 24th, at the Pennsylvania Hotel, Room 3, at which nominations and elections for three delegates to the coming convention of the International Union in Philadelphia will be made. The meeting will also elect a manager and a secretary for the designers' local.

A committee of Local 45 appeared last week before the meeting of the Joint Board on Friday, October 16th, and explained to the delegates the situation of the designers' organization. It asked the Joint Board to aid it in reviving the local and to make an effort to have the designers recognized in all future contractual arrangements with the employers as all other members of the women's wear trades are recognized. The Joint Board promised the designers its support.

Local 45 issued an appeal to all designers in the trade to join it and to help it become an influential factor in the women's garment industry. It announced that all members in arrears may regain their standing in the local for the small sum of \$5.00.

Saturday's meeting will be addressed by Louis Hyman, temporary general manager of the Joint Board and by S. Zimmerman, in charge of the Dress Division.

Local 45 issued an appeal to all designers in the trade to join it and to help it become an influential factor in the women's garment industry. It announced that all members in arrears may regain their standing in the local for the small sum of \$5.00.

## Union Health Center to Celebrate Fifth Anniversary

New Clinics to Be Formally Opened

The Union Health Center of New York, the institution which caters to the health needs of the organized ladies' garment workers, will celebrate its fifth anniversary on Thursday, November 5th, from 2 to 4 P. M. in the building of the Center, 131 East 17th Street, New York City.

On the following day, Friday, November 6th, during the same hours, the Center will open officially its new dental clinic on the sixth floor of 222 Fourth Avenue, corner of 18th Street. A unique program is arranged for each day. Representatives of the whole labor movement in New York have been invited to attend the celebration and to inspect the new medical and dental clinics. A special exhibit will be placed in each clinic. Prominent physicians, public health workers

and union officers will speak at these celebrations.

## Jacobson and Glaze will Sing at Opening of Educational Season on Saturday, Nov. 14

On Saturday, November 14 in the beautiful auditorium of Washington Irving High School the re-opening of our educational season will be celebrated.

On this occasion Saacha Jacobson, the famous violinist and Mme. Gita Glaze, the well known soprano, will participate in the concert. We are now preparing the program for the evening which will be most inspiring.

We are certain it will be an intellectual and artistic treat for the hundreds of our members who will assemble. The concert will be followed by a dance in the Gymnasium.

Admission will be by tickets only which our members can obtain at the office of our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, or at the offices of their local unions. Each ticket will admit two.

## Election of Joint Board Staff Next Tuesday, October 27th

(Continued from Page 1)

Members failing to appear before the Objection Committee will not be placed on the ballot.

The general manager is to be nominated both by locals and by the Joint Board.

Nominations for the office of general manager were at once made and Louis Hyman was nominated for the post without a dissenting voice. The election committee also recommended that the salary of business agents be \$53 per week, the salary of a district manager be \$2 weekly, and that of the general manager \$75.00 per week.

The report was accepted with all commendations.

### Joint Board Elects Convention Delegate

At the same meeting of the Joint Board last Friday, Brother Joseph Fish, the secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, was nominated and elected as the delegate of that body to the next International convention in Philadelphia.

## Purcell To Speak at Two Meetings in N.Y.

At a conference of Union representatives held at Beethoven Hall,

## "A Holy Terror"

At the George M. Cohan Theatre

Our Educational Department has received a limited number of tickets entitling our members to reduced rates to see John Golden's production "A Holy Terror" at the George M. Cohan Theatre. This is a comedy dealing with the life of the miners working in the West Virginia coal fields.

This offer is good only until Saturday afternoon, October 24. Tickets can be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th street.

## ROM DR. GEORGE M. PRICE TO THE NEW YORK MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

It will be five years in November since our Medical and Dental Clinics, previously at 31 Union Square, were moved into the Union Health Center at 131 E. 17th Street.

As you know, this building was bought and reconstructed at the expense of nearly one hundred thousand dollars to house the Medical and Dental Clinics. These clinics have filled a long felt want and it was felt could give much better service in their own home.

The work of the Union Health Center in the Medical as well as the Dental Departments is well known to the members. In the Health Center we are trying to give the best medical and dental service for the members of the I. L. G. W. U. by the most competent physicians and dentists. Members are made to feel that the Center is their own institution. The Health Center is at all times ready to give expert health service, medical advice, and dental treatment.

That the service is appreciated by the garment workers is proved by the fact that within the last five years the number of patients and the number of treatments have increased four-fold. During the last year we have given over fifty-two thousand treatments, medical and dental, or an average of more than one thousand per week.

You know how crowded we have been during the last year and how handicapped our work has been, because of the limited space we have had in the Union Health Center building.

Because of this overcrowding, the Board of Directors, consisting of the Managers of the nine Locals, that own the Center decided to remove the Dental Department from the 17th Street building.

Accordingly, a big loft, at 222 Fourth Avenue, corner of 18th Street, 6th Floor, was taken for the Dental Department and was equipped with twenty-five chairs.

At the same time, the Medical Department has been enlarged and improved. The entire house at 131 E. 17th Street has been remodeled for the purposes of the Medical Department.

Within a very short time both the Medical Department on 17th Street and the Dental Department at 222 Fourth Avenue, will have formal openings. The members of the I. L. G. W. U. are invited to visit their Health Center and take advantage of the remarkable medical and dental service offered them.

## Labor Support's Golden Rule Sunday

December Sixth is International Golden Rule Sunday, a day devoted to focusing attention on the needs of Near East Relief orphans in Bible Lands. 35,000 still look to America for their very existence. Of this number 80 per cent are less than four teen years of age. During the past twelve months 15,000 either became self-supporting or were placed out for adoption.

"Until the last orphan has been placed in a position of self-support, I am certain that the great organized labor movement of America will continue to give its earnest assistance to the work of the Near East Relief," states Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor. "The practice of the Golden Rule, the relief of the needy and stricken, is the mission and purpose of the organized workers of America."

On the first Sunday in December we are asked to eat a simple meal of bread and stew such as the orphan have every day in the year. To make as liberal provision for their upkeep as we would like to have made for ourselves if conditions were reversed.

The Near East Relief is not only feeding and clothing children under its care but it is also training them for self-support. In all some twenty different trades are taught depending on the needs of the country where the children are quartered. At present the orphanages are located in Syria, Greece, Palestine and Russian Armenia.

During the twelve months from January 1 to December 31 of 1934 the service of Near East Relief reached 554,878 persons, of whom the great majority were women and children. Of this number were many belonging to races or nationalities that had no legal claim upon the land that had given them haven.

### GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY!

The Office of the International, 3 West 16th street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase.

"The Women's Garment Worker" at half price—\$2.50.

The American Federation of Labor pressed its approval of this work by the passage of the following resolution at the October meeting in Atlantic City:

RESOLVED, That the American Federation of Labor commends the work of the Near East Relief and recommends that local unions and central labor bodies cooperate in this humanitarian work of saving lives of orphan children and training them for leadership in various trades in the Near East countries.

## Raincoat Makers Give Gift to Shop Head

The workers of the waterproof garment shop of Rosen & Magliorini, at a shop meeting held on Friday, October 8, voted to present to their chairman, Brother Joe Kessler, a valuable diamond pen for his faithful services to the workers of this shop and his ceaseless endeavors to improve the

work conditions in the place.

At the same meeting, the workers of this shop voted to give gifts to Bro. David Gindoff, the manager of the local, an d to Abraham Weingart, its secretary. The meeting also elected a committee to make this fact known in the labor press.

## People's Symphony Concerts

I. L. G. W. U. Members May Obtain Tickets at One-Fourth of Price.

It is not so much applause as true appreciation that a great artist most desires, and this is especially true in the case of Leginska, who is, perhaps, the greatest woman pianist in America. Leginska, like other great artists, has found that the finest audiences in the way of appreciation are not those that go to the high-priced concert halls uptown, but are those who gather in little centers in the less fashionable parts of the city.

These are the audiences who come to hear a concert, as worshippers come to a temple. During the playing, there is a silence that amounts to reverence. That is why Leginska promised to play again for the People's Symphony concerts, an organization devoted to the spreading of good music among the people. The first concert will take place at the Washington Irving High School, on October 23d, at 8:15.

Carl Schallwitz, American violinist,

has just completed his western tour, and will give his first recital in New York this season at Aeolian Hall, Sunday evening, November 8th. His program will consist of numbers by Handel, Mozart, Saint-Saens, and Vieuxtemps. Members wishing to attend this concert can secure tickets by showing their card at Room 1203, 22 Union Square. Orchestra seats \$2.50; for members 50 cents. \$1.00 tickets for 25 cents.

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## With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH H. BARR,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Locals 2, 3, 8, 10, 21, 22, 23, 25, 45, 46, 44, 32 and 89 was held on Friday, October 16, 1925, at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th street.

The minutes of the Joint Board of October 9 are adopted as read.

The report of the Board of Directors of October 14 is adopted as read. Committees:

A committee of the Designers' Union, Local No. 45, requests the Joint Board to assist them in organizing their craft, and do it in its power to bring their local up to the same standards as the other locals comprising the Joint Board. The committee also requests that when collecting books for the payment of dues, the shop chairman should also include the designer and pay as much attention to their needs as to those of the members of other locals.

Brother Kempner, representing Local No. 45 at the Joint Board, appeals to the delegates and officers to do all in their power to comply with the request of the committee.

President Ansel states that the Joint Board will do all it can to help the designers strengthen their organization and see to it that they are recognized.

### Communications:

Local No. 5 advises the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of September 30th and October 7th and the report of the Board of Directors of September 23rd.

Local No. 9 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of October 9th, with the exception of that part which deals with the payment of the wages to the retiring business agents.

Local No. 22 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of October 9th as read. With regard to payment of back wages to the retiring business agents the Executive Board of the local approved the decision of the Joint Board with the understanding that only such business agents who were elected on the ballot are to be paid.

A communication is received from Arthur D. Wolf, chairman of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, in which he quotes the following rates which the jobber is to contribute towards this Fund:

Garnments	
ranging from	— 6.75 to 12.75 — .07
	12.75 to 14.75 — .10
	14.75 to 22.75 — .12
	22.75 to 27.75 — .15
	27.75 to 49.75 — .20
	49.75 and up — .25
refusers	— .54

The following members are appointed to serve on the Grievance and Appeal Committees of the Joint Board:

Grievance Committee—Local No. 2, Radish; Local No. 9, Silverman; Local No. 22, Cohen.

Appeal Committee—Local No. 2, Co-

hen; Local No. 9, Radish; Local No. 22, Pearl H'sberg.

Nominations are then made for a delegate to the convention of the I. L. G. W. U., and Brother Fish, Secretary-Treasurer of the Joint Board, accepts the nomination.

Brother Fish is elected by 42 votes against 7.

A new Finance Committee is then elected and the following will serve on this committee:

Local No. 2, Weiss; Local No. 3, Kalish; Local No. 9, Mania Perlman; Local No. 10, Zaslavsky; Local No. 22, Rose Vertis; Local No. 23, Frumchick; Local No. 35, Borenstein; Local No. 48, Molisan; Local No. 82, Sam Levine; Local No. 89, Lauritano.

### Special Committee Report:

Secretary-Treasurer Fish reports that the committee appointed by the Joint Board to take up the question of the election of Business Agents recommends the following:

1. There should be one general ballot for the election of Business Agents.
2. Applications should be filed with the office on October 19, 20 and 21st.
3. The Examination and Objection Committee should meet on October 22 and 23rd and should consist of:

The General Officers of the International.

The General Officers of the Joint Board.

Local Managers.

Board of Directors.

A committee of five from the Shop Chairmen's Committee.

4. Election should be held on Tuesday, October 27th.

5. The Election Committee should consist of three delegates of each local, i. e., two delegates representing the local at the Joint Board and one appointed by its Executive Board, and a committee of 8 of the Shop Chairmen's Committee.

6. The following polling places will be used:

Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth avenue; Local No. 22, 16 West 21st street; Local No. 48, 231 East 14th street. The offices of the Joint Board and should be open from 7 A. M. until 8 P. M.

7. Each member of the Election Committee should be compensated with \$30.00.

This committee also recommends that the salary of the Business Agents should be \$52.00 and that of the Managers, \$62.00. This amount includes the expenses incurred by those officers. The salary of the General Manager should be \$75.00.

In the absence of Brother Ninfo, Brother Fish reports that Brother Ninfo was in the minority and is for local instead of general elections for Business Agents.

This calls forth a discussion. Brothers Pankas and Molisan speak for local elections. Brothers Antonini, Zimmerman, Egito and President Sigman favor the majority recommendation.

## Review of October In Industry

Further expansion, active wholesale and retail trade and continued optimism characterized the industrial and business situation during September.

So far the forward movement has not been accompanied by any undue rise in the commodity price level, the increase in wholesale prices over the last twelve months being under 10 per cent, and in retail prices even considerably less. There has, however, been inflation in the price of stocks of corporations and, in certain sections of the country, in land values. As long as the stock market and real estate booms do not divert too much credit from the farmer, the business man and the industrialist they are not a source of imminent danger to the general economic structure.

At the present time there are few real "sore spots" among our major industries, but those that exist are extensive and persistent. The textile trades and the coal fields continue to suffer from over-expansion. Some of the slack has been taken up in the former of recent months. The silk trade has scored a definite advance and a better demand for cotton goods has developed. The ills of the woolen industry have, however, not responded to the treatment of wage cuts. The feature in the coal situation is the complete shut-down of the anthracite mines since the strike call of

tion of the Committee.

The Majority report is approved by 32 votes against 9.

Nominations are then made for General Manager. Brother Hyman is unanimously nominated as the choice of the Joint Board for this office, in the coming election.

The Joint Board also decides that the various locals be informed that their nominations for general manager are to be sent in to the Secretary of the Joint Board.

### General Manager's Report:

Brother Hyman reiterates his report to the Board of Directors and adds that although handicapped in the work because of the small number on the staff, they are nevertheless conducting the business of the Joint Board and a number of new people will be placed in the office by next Monday.

The report is approved.

The meeting is then adjourned.

September first. Due to large stocks of coal on hand at the time of the strike, no serious shortage has as yet developed. The struggle promises to continue for some time. Conditions in the bituminous field are such as to make the prospects of a strike in that industry at the expiration of the present contract not improbable. On the other hand, a dangerous situation has been relieved by the settlement of the long-standing dispute between brick-layers and carpenters.

The railroad and building industries are among the most conspicuous factors on the constructive side of the picture. Car loadings have exceeded the million mark for a considerable number of weeks. This, of course, indicates a very active distribution movement. Gross and net earnings of the carriers have shown marked improvement. Construction continues at an unprecedentedly high rate. The output of automobiles is large, and steel production is showing an advancing tendency. Shoes and clothing are better. Employment picked up in September, as was expected. Outside of the woolen industry, there were virtually no wage cuts. There were some isolated increases, but no major movement of the wage level is as yet under way.

The agricultural situation despite the sharp decline in the grain markets and the crop damages caused by unfavorable weather conditions, is good on the whole, and the farmers will be in a position to liquidate fairly the heavy indebtedness incurred largely between 1921 and 1923. This year's aggregate farm income will, however, be smaller than last year's.

The seasonal tendencies of October and November still favor a continuation of industrial activity. Good fall business is expected this year.

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## Raincoat Makers, Attention!

### Election for Delegates to International Convention

Will Take Place  
**THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th**  
In the Office of the Union  
130 East 25th STREET

Voting will begin at 12 noon and will last until 7 in the evening

The Following Are the Candidates:

DAVID GINGOLD	RAM FREEDMAN
ABRAHAM WEINGART	SIMON ROBINSON
SAM BAROFF	MAX KAPLAN
HYMAN GOLDSTEIN	ISRAEL KLEIN
MEYER POLINSKY	BEN WEISBERG

The Executive Board of the Local has Decided that Any Member Failing to Vote is Liable to be Fined Two Dollars

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 30

DAVID GINGOLD, Manager.

ABRAHAM WEINGART, Secretary.

## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel: Chelsea 2148.

MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. BROWMAN, Business Manager.

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance \$1.00 per year.

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# JUSTICE

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Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel: CHelsea 2145

MORRIS HIGMAN, President. S. TANOFKY, Editor.  
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager.

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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## EDITORIALS

### "SHE DOTTH MOVE"

The 45th convention of the A. F. of Labor did not disappoint

us. Perhaps, because we did not anticipate too much from it. We did not, for instance, expect this convention to issue forth a declaration that only a social revolution may free the workers from their thralldom; moreover, we did not even expect that the A. F. of L. would go on record by stating that the American workers are in a condition of slavery; neither did we anticipate that it would declare for an independent political labor party or that its present non-partisan policy is wrong.

Neither did we reckon on the A. F. of L. of a sudden making love to Communism and to all that this term implies. We did not imagine that the convention could indorse the "one big union" idea, or even the policy of amalgamation of various crafts in one industry into one union. And because we had no such expectations from this convention of the A. F. of L., we feel that we are not disappointed.

On the other hand, this convention did exceed some of our expectations. The convention, we feel, did make some headway, even though the delegates have never failed, throughout its duration, to emphasize that they were following in Gompers' footsteps. It often seemed to me, indeed, as if the frequently repeated cries: "Long live Gompers!" were only intended to conceal the fact that in many respects the A. F. of L. is beginning to move away from the tactics of the late leader. The convention, at least, demonstrated to us that it is not a petrified, frozen-up gathering, and more than once during the debates on the floor and in its resolutions it occurred to us that the echo of that great motto: "She doth move!" was reverberating across the great assembly hall.

True, the spokesmen at this convention were the same familiar personages one always meets at A. F. of L. conventions. But, to begin with, this fact alone can by no means be put down to the discredit of the Federation. A movement which constantly changes its face and which constantly keeps on discarding its older leaders is not a durable, stable movement. It seems to us that some of our radical movements would have fared better than what they do were they to possess the inner force of retaining their older forefathers and leaders. The sad fact is that the places of these old leaders are often being taken in these movements by younger, though by far not as forceful personalities. Secondly let us admit candidly: the Labor movement and its various offshoots is not overburdened with annual crops of gifted leadership. To be sure, it takes years to develop persons of calibre and ability in any movement, and the Labor movement is no exception to this.

What the Labor movement needs is not a continual change of leadership, but a steady growth and maturing of the old spokesmen. And it appears to us that we have noticed unmistakable signs of such growth at the last convention of the A. F. of L.

Who, for instance, can honestly doubt that John P. Frey, for many years an influential spokesman in A. F. of L. circles, has not made big strides after listening to his now famous amendment to the report of the committee of the wage question, which reads as follows:

"Social inequality, industrial instability and injustice must increase unless the workers' real wages, the purchasing power of their wages, is advanced in proportion to man's increasing power of production."

Is not this a new word for an A. F. of L. convention? Was not this amendment, offered not by a newcomer but by an old and tried leader, finally accepted unanimously by the committee on resolutions? Let us analyze this amendment a little closer.

Its first six words indicate an admission that our blessed land is suffering from "social inequality and industrial insecurity and injustice." Translate them into our revolutionary phraseology and you will find in them the very essence of the class struggle, of which Communists everywhere consider themselves today the sole custodians. True, Delegate Frey is not yet ready to declare that this social inequality must be totally abolished together with "industrial instability and injustice." He only desires to see these grievances ameliorated. He may be wholly wrong concerning this: if social inequality is a fundamental wrong why strive only for its amelioration, why not give earnest thought to its total abolition?

But Delegate Frey is neither a Socialist, nor a Communist, and he does not believe that social inequality and injustice may

be entirely done away with. But is it not significant for America that a labor leader who is neither a Socialist nor a revolutionist of any hue but a good Democrat, should finally have reached the conclusion that social inequality is an evil and something should be done to check its growth?

Frey proposes as a remedy a change in the Federation outlook on the wage question, an outlook for which the old Gompers has fought so many years. Gompers had coined the phrase: "A fair day's work for a fair day's wages," and this phrase has since become the wage dogma in the American labor movement. Frey recommends:

"In this country and in this movement we have used terms which were not wholly satisfactory. I have recalled when we spoke of a fair day's work, but we never could discover what the fair wage was or what the fair day's work might be, because we differed with our employers. Only within recent years many of our representatives adopted a still more unsound statement of the basis on which wages should be computed—a living wage. I don't now what a living wage is. I am quite sure that the wage a turnipcan camp might consider a living wage would be starvation wages in New York City. It is unfair that we should base our wages on our own conception of our cost of living rather than upon the value of what we are creating."

How far is this hereby from the accepted Socialist-collectivist point of view, which likewise declares not for a total abolition of wages, but which seeks to base wages upon the worth of produced commodities? How widely apart is this viewpoint from the old viewpoint of the A. F. of L.? Yet, Frey's declaration received the unanimous approval of the resolutions' committee and was adopted by the convention.

Can any intellectually honest person, in view of this act of the convention, now assert that the American Federation of Labor is an immovable, petrified body?

We are willing to admit that this new definition of wages will not lead to a lightning fast change of the fighting tactics in the American Labor movement. It will take time before this theory will take on blood and flesh. But is not it enough that this theory, in all its breadth and width, has now been adopted by the 45th convention of the A. F. of L.? Will it not eventually lead to a concerted move on the part of the American workers to demand a greater share of the goods they produce on the strength of their own increased productivity? Is not it bound to lead to a demand that improvement of machinery and of the tools of production and distribution entitles the workers to a shortening of their workday instead of throwing so many of them out of employment as is the case today?

This particular implication of Frey's amendment was brought out fully on the floor of the convention not by a radical but by one who is recognized as a very conservative labor leader, president James Lynch of the International Typographical Union. We are quite sure that our readers would be interested to know what this old conservative leader had to say on this subject. We reproduce it verbatim:

"As it impresses me, the productive power in this super-age in which we live, this abundance which we are enjoying, is due to a very great extent to labor saving machinery and the effect of labor saving machinery will not be regulated entirely by the wage. This deduction should include not only increases in wages, but also be accompanied by further reductions in hours that the wage earners work. If we are to continue with the eight hour day and also continue with the perfection of machinery, then the increase in wages will not relieve that condition and it will be of little value to the wage earners who are thrown out of employment by the continued increase in labor saving machinery. My suggestion would be that it include not only the suggestion for constantly increasing wages, but also the suggestion for a constant and continuing reduction in the number of hours that make up the work day."

Candidly, it was a joy and a revelation to listen to this absorbingly interesting debate. We liked it all the more because we knew as well that these delegates have arrived at their conclusions not from a prior study of Marxian dialectics but from the hard school of the daily struggle of the workers whom they represented, with experience as the only mother of their convictions.

The arch-revolutionists may continue to see in the A. F. of L. all that is reactionary and retrogressive, in such, however, as the American Labor movement is going ahead, not as fast as we should like it to, but going ahead nevertheless.

We could point out this progressive trend in a number of other resolutions and decisions adopted by this convention, such as the decision with regard to a renewed and reinforced organizing campaign of the unorganized, the resolutions on the subject of child labor, on militarism, on injunctions in labor disputes, concerning which the convention expressed itself this year with greater clarity than ever, but we shall leave that for some other time. We only wish to call the attention of the readers to one other debate at this convention—on the subject of an independent labor party. It is true the proposal for the forming of such a party failed, but it is interesting to observe that the principal argument advanced by President Green, and by all the other speakers in opposition to this motion, was that it is not the union leaders who would not hear of a labor party but the rank and file of the membership itself.

We remember the time, not so long ago, when the non-partisan policy was regarded as the quiescence of wisdom in A. F. of L. circles, when such as dared to speak in opposition to it were treated as visionaries and imbeciles. At the last convention of

## Seeing America First

### 5. EDUCATION IN THE GREAT FREE WEST

By SYLVIA KOPALO

It was in the far west that I met him, in the shadow of the Rockies' loftiest peaks. The less fortunate descendant of men—who were born in a more propitious time, he too had followed the advice given to his grand-sons. "Go west, young man, go west." Could Horace Greely look upon this latter-day convert to his preaching he would sense immediately the change that had come upon his country. Two and three generations ago the youth who followed that sage's advice had at least their promising opportunities. They might become rich; they might become powerful; they might find something new and different from what they had left behind in the east. And this summer I talked to him; perhaps, who knows, Horace overheard us.

Various factors had sent him to the west. Born in New York, he had been educated, raised and married, in the east. His young manhood had come to him near the Atlantic; he had taunted his life and his career on its shores. Even the advent of his migration had been characteristic. He had not set out for the west with high hopes and buoyant enthusiasm. On the contrary, he had hated to go; nothing seemed more desirable to him than to continue life in the east. When I met him he had been in Colorado some five years. By that time life for him had become largely a great hope of speedy return—home. Western civilization had brought no gifts to him; the contrast between eastern memories and western reality seemed as unending, never-changing refrain in his ears: "Go east, young man, go east."

What is this failure in the newly matured society to the west? Why does it no longer call our nation's youth? Why does it find it so difficult to hold those which it does receive? I wondered whether the experience of this man could offer any clue to the secret. Of course, he may not be, indeed, is not, representative of any large group. He has not sought fortune in the west, nor rare opportunities in business or politics. He is an intellectual, a college professor, a man of intellectual and spiritual ideals. To find sustenance for these more intangible cravings of the ego, he eagerly subscribes to eastern magazines, eastern newspapers, eastern book catalogues. How hungry he was for the news of the eastern world which we brought him.

The externals of life had shaped themselves well enough for him. His home was large and comfortable. The huge billows which are the Rockies rose and fell all about him. Purple dis-

tance, far-off storms, dazzling sunsets, an always different array of time and color has been the frame in which the picture of his new life is set. One of the most majestic, most unspoiled Peaks of the entire world rises almost out of his back yard. D—remembers things as does his wife also. He grows the coming of good plays to the nearby theatres every now and then, and the interest of the new industrial developments of the west—the Mexican migration, the industrialization of agriculture, the stiff union struggle which lies dormant in the mining fields of the state, the new workers' education ventures. In these things he participates eagerly and unstintedly, studying, teaching, joining with others to win better control where control is needed. Yet a typical conversation with D—will run something like this:

"Of course, you've got everything but our new agricultural developments back east, too. And so much more besides. Our chambers of commerce are so proud of our wide streets. Yes, we have a town of wide streets and narrow people. Such people! It's luck we and the C—s (mentioning friends) found each other here. At least we have the satisfaction of trying to work out some interesting experiments together. We've tried to get over some good sociological understanding in the college. We put in some real courses on labor and trade unionism; and the students at least understand the Industrial Revolution since we got here. And then, of course, there's been that course on method—of study and thinking. But it's all so damn unsatisfactory. We have not a student who isn't more interested in dances and frills than in what we try to give them. They still see culture as an acquisition of useless but ornamental accomplishments. Their fathers have set business and political principles and the students take them on easily when they come of age. Before that fated 21 years of age has been reached they refuse to do even that much thinking."

"And then look at our faculty. Not only fossilized, but on the whole such a spineless bunch. I suppose you know that the ministers of our city's churches called them to a conference recently in order to scold and warn them against a 'certain radicalism' growing among them. Think of the state of education among us when the clergy dares to take such a task upon

himself. What's that you say? Oh, yes we have three colleges in the state. But that points not to the eagerness for knowledge among us but to stupid local rivalries. All three duplicate classes, courses, equipment, facilities. Besides they've found it almost impossible to cooperate on anything. Some of us are trying to set on foot a co-operative research project; we'll see whether even that can be worked out."

"The best of our students go to the big eastern universities; any good faculty man we get stay here only until an opening appears in an eastern college. So you see what's left us. Students of trim, arrow-collar ideals and mind, healthy animals most of them who are going to reach high in the ranks of the Rotary clubs and the Elks. Antisocial, anti-bourgeois, anti-capitalist, anti everything—even slightly unpopular with the noisier members of the community. Our good faculty men are dissatisfied; our satisfied faculty men are poor. And there you are."

D—could go on like this to many more details, while we listened in amazement to this picture of the west as it is today. Certainly a far cry from the society of the hardy pioneers and fearless frontiersmen, this regimented, uniform, terrified thing. There came the day, too, when we asked him one further question about education in the great, free west. And in his answer we glimpsed even more clearly the distance the west has travelled since the brave days when Horace Greely announced it as a mecca.

Somehow our eyes had travelled to his two young sons playing on the porch about us as we spoke. We put the query to him in the midst of one of his tirades against the status of education in his state. "And how is it with the children? Have you found conditions in the elementary schools any better?"

"Better! Worse, you mean. They are simply torn to shreds by the Klan fight. What the Klan doesn't control already, it wants to control. And so a collection of wholly extraneous issues are fought back and forth, while the children are incultured with good One-Hundred-and-Six-Percentism, social and religious conformity and how to become either rich or famous as did Rockefeller, Washington and the rest, or poor and honest. And you know there isn't an experimental school in the state?"

"Do you know what we did in this case? Well, a few of the faculty men with children banded together, and we started our own experimental school. It's proving a great success—the outstanding educational success of the

state—and of course an eastern importation."

He showed us the books on pedagogy, child psychology, and new educational test books and methods according to which the school was run. The characterization our friend had given with a smile proved to be a truly just one. The improvised school was most interesting—and accomplishing a yeoman's task under most difficult circumstances.

For their school house, they had rented a little bungalow, across the railroads and nestling close to the mountains. "Teacher" was a wise and understanding lady, who had come to Colorado with her sick husband and who was most happy to have this chance for real work. She was well versed in the newer psychological and pedagogic theories and experimented liberally. Her pupils adored her. The children did all the work necessary to keep the schoolhouse in order. They grew flowers and vegetables in their garden, made their own chairs and tables, cooked their own meals, provided whatever warmth and light was needed. Manual work was an essential part of their training, and as I watched the high spirits in which they cleaned and cooked and tended it came to me how joyous a thing any cooperative venture can be made. The children were taught wood-carving, carpentry, etching and painting. A wood-worker of the neighborhood supplied this part of their course.

One of the faculty members from the department of natural history took the children on periodic trips through the woods and fields and mountains where they were acquainted with all the fascinating plant and animal life about them. They were also taught the intricacies of the heavens and storms and the air. They understood all the secrets of their own bodies. Reading, writing and arithmetic were tied up with the interests of the wider world. Sums were not in abstract calculations in impossible make-believe, but affairs of familiar every-day experience. The children kept the expensive books of their school. Reading was taught from real story books, carefully chosen, and at the time of our visit the faculty were considering the use of texts which told of factory and shop and mine.

Thus are some easterners conquering education in the great, free west for their children.

**Opening Exercises of The Educational Activities of The I. L. C. W. U. will take place on Saturday evening, November 14, in the auditorium of Washington Irving High School. This event will be celebrated with a concert and dance. Prominent artists will participate.**

the Federation we have listened to different talk on this selfsame subject. President Green acknowledged his sincere respect for all those who believe that an independent labor party is an urgent necessity. He frankly admitted that the A. F. of L. had made, during the La Follette campaign, an attempt in the direction of such a party, but with dismal results. The masses of the workers voted for the parties which they used to support in the past, and the A. F. of L. could not, of course, force a labor party upon the workers against their will. President Green went further in his speech declaring that it is quite possible that some day in the future a labor party will be formed in America, but at present the circumstances make the organization of such a party unthinkable.

One, of course, may disagree with President Green's logic. One might ask him: Are the masses eager to belong to trade unions? Isn't it a fact that there are millions upon millions of them in our country who still have to be taught the rudiments of trade unionism? Nevertheless, the A. F. of L. would not think of relinquishing on that account its organizing campaigns and activity. Why make a distinction with regard to the political struggle of the workers?

But, regardless of the weakness or strength of President Green's argument,—it is a new argument on the floor of an

A. F. of L. convention. The leaders of American labor would not shoulder the blame for the absence of a labor party in America. They place it at the doors of the working masses, and this in itself is, upon second thought, quite a step forward.

No, the Atlantic City convention of the A. F. of L. leaves us without disappointment. It has, instead, exceeded our expectations in more than one sense. We have learned that the A. F. of L. is, notwithstanding many organic impediments and traditional barriers, still a living organism which grows and makes headway, both in the realm of theory and of practice.

The American Labor movement need not feel humiliated—as compared with labor movements in other countries. True, its policies are somewhat different from theirs—but this is quite inevitable. American conditions are quite different, and the American worker, with his present standard of living, thinks differently than workers in other countries. Meaningless revolutionary phrases will not change him. The Labor movement in America proceeds with its natural, healthy life and continues its steady development. And regardless of whatever shortcomings one may find in it, we may honestly say about our movement together with Galileo: "She doth move!"



# EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

## Bulletins Sent to Members

The bulletin announcing the activities of our Educational Department for the year 1925-1926 was sent out to our past and future students.

The pamphlet consists of 32 pages and the courses are announced in English and Yiddish. A short description

is given of each course to give the reader an idea what he will learn from it.

Members can obtain the bulletin at our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, or we will mail them on request.

## Some Lectures This Week

**RENNIE SMITH**, Labor Member of British Parliament and active in the Workers' education movement in that country, will lecture on "Labor Conditions in England" on Saturday, Oct. 24, 1:15 P. M. in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street.

Admission free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

**ALEXANDER FICHANDLER** will give the first lesson of his course "Social Psychology" in the I. L. G. W. U. Building on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 6:30 P. M. The course will consist of ten lessons.

Admission free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

## Workers' University Classes Begin Nov. 14

On Saturday, November 14 at 1:30 P. M. in Room 356 of Washington Irving High School, Professor Emory Holloway will give the introduction to his course "A Social Study of American Literature".

The same day at 2:30 P. M. Mr. A. J. Muste of Brookwood will give the introduction to his course "The

Place of Workers in History". Mr. Muste will give his introduction on Saturday, but the remainder of the course will be given on Sunday mornings.

Admission to our educational activities is free to members of our Union, but they must register and get a season card.

## Classes in English at Unity Centers

Our Educational Department has arranged classes in English for members of the I. L. G. W. U. in the following Public Schools:

P. S. 25—315 E. 5th St., Manhattan

P. S. 171—102nd St. between Madison and Fifth Aves.

P. S. 43—Brown Place and 135th St., Bronx

P. S. 61—Crotona Park E. and Charlotte St., Bronx

P. S. 159—Christopher Ave. and Sackman St., Brooklyn.

Later in the season we will arrange courses at these Unity Centers on the History, Aims and Problems of the Labor Movement, Economics, etc.

Remember when registering to tell the principal that you wish to join the I. L. G. W. U. Unity Center.

## Second International Convention on Workers' Education

Ruskin College, Oxford,

August 15-17, 1924

By FANNIA M. COHN

### Part II.

So much, then, for the general spirit of the convention, its high spots, and the impressions it left with us. In this small space it is impossible to give even a brief summary of all the detailed speeches and discussions of the conference. It may be worth while, however, to list some of the more important points made by them.

### Workers Education International Established

The two main resolutions were those which provided, firstly, the machinery, and secondly, the necessary funds for setting up the International. Although it was too early to propose affiliation fees, it was recognized that money must be collected from the workers.

### International Workers Colleges

Richard Weimann, in his speech on an international workers' college said that this college must be more advanced than the national colleges, but must keep in close touch with them—that in a national college the teaching must be based upon conditions within its country, while the international college would seek to strengthen in the international idea.

The international college would also acquaint the students with the workers' movements in the most important countries, information essential for those who wish to act internationally. In a word, the duties and curriculum of an international workers' college must meet the international needs of the labor movement. The international workers' organization must be responsible for it and must direct it—it must be imbued with the spirit of the international labor movement.

Mr. Weimann called attention to the International People's College in Elsinore, Denmark, which was not, he said, a part of the labor movement. It is conducted by outside groups, and although socialist teachers have co-operated, still it lacks contact with the labor movement. He pointed out that the selection of students and teachers for the international college will be of great importance. National organizations must choose the students, who must have some knowledge and experience of the labor movement and of social and economic questions. They should not be too young, should hold important offices in the labor movement, and should be individuals of whom it might be expected that they would put what they learn at the disposal of the labor movement.

Mr. Weimann suggested that each

## Weekly Educational Calendar

I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING, 3 WEST 16TH STREET

Saturday, October 24, 1925

1:30 P. M. Rennie Smith—Labor Conditions in England.

Rennie Smith is a Labor Member of British Parliament and active in the Workers' Education Movement in England.

Wednesday, October 28

6:30 P. M. Alexander Fichandler—Social Psychology.

This course will consist of ten lessons and will be continued on Wednesday evenings.

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street, Room 530

Saturday, November 14

1:30 P. M. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature.

This course will consist of six lessons, and will be followed by a course in English literature to be given by Mr. B. J. R. Stolper.

2:30 P. M. A. J. Muste—The Place of Workers in History.

Mr. Muste will give the introduction to his course on Saturday, November 14, but the remainder of the lessons will be given Sunday mornings. The course consists of ten lessons.

AUDITORIUM OF WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL

Saturday, November 14

7:30 P. M. Concert—Opening Celebration of Educational Service. Saesha Jacobsen, violinist and Maud Gita Glase, soprano will participate in musical program. Tickets free to member of the Union. Gymnasium of Washington Irving High School. Dance after the concert.

### BULLETINS READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

The 32 page bulletin announcing the activities of our Educational Department is now ready for distribution. Members can obtain it at the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, or we will mail them on request.

### UNITY CENTERS

English classes have been organized for our members in the following Public Schools:

P. S. 25 325 E. 5th St., Manhattan.

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P. S. 159 Christopher Ave. and Sackman St., Brooklyn.

Remember when registering to tell the principal that you wish to join the I. L. G. W. U. Unity Center.

course in the school should be held in one language only, and that the various languages should be used in turn. He thought that a fund should be established, and that the expenses of the students should be paid by the organizations of the individual countries, with assistance from the fund, when necessary. He pointed out that the international summer schools, due to their movable character are particularly practicable, and thought they might in time develop into an international workers college. He made a plea to the International Federation of Trade Unions, jointly with the Workers' Educational International, to extend its summer schools, concentrate their work, and bring them into closer contact with national organizations so that these latter could propagandize for them and select their students. Then it would be time to think of getting up a permanent international workers' college in connection with one of the existing colleges.

Mr. Weimann's suggestions were greeted by one delegate as a means of promoting peace and friendship nations. The delegates thought that before setting up international institutions it would be necessary to settle whether or not the aim was to educate the masses or the leaders only. They were of the opinion that through exchange of students and teachers and through extension of the Summer Schools the required results could be accomplished. One delegate called attention to the fact that it had been found difficult to get leaders back into industry after they had been in

training, even in their own country, and that it would probably be even more difficult if they were sent to an educational college.

R. Bhavan said that India had special need for an international college, as their leaders have not the necessary education for their work. India and other eastern countries have such a supply of cheap labor that the capitalists will export their capital to these countries, which constitutes a danger to the European movement. While employers can get cheap labor in other countries, they will not pay high wages in their own. So the backward countries must be educated and if the workers' movement is to be really international it must extend its activities to the Orient.

The delegate from British Guiana added to this that when they attempted to stand for better conditions in his country, the planters sent to India and Malaya for cheaper labor. Although they had as yet no workers' educational movement they realized their need for it and were very proud to have received an invitation to the conference. He suggested correspondence schools as of practical benefit to the movement.

It was announced that the International Federation of Trade Unions had considered purchasing a building in Central Europe for schools and conferences which might be used for an international workers' college. In the meantime, the Holiday Homes owned by the labor movement might be used. (To be continued)





## The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

The important features of the week in the local are the election of delegates to the eighteenth convention of the International, candidates for which are to be ballotted upon on Saturday afternoon, October 24th, 1925, in Arlington Hall, and discussions on the issues of the convention and its effect on the present situation in the union.

The discussion that is going on among the cutters just now was stimulated by the Good and Welfare meeting, which was held last Saturday afternoon, October 17th, in Arlington Hall. At this meeting a resolution was introduced by a committee elected by the cloak and dress shop chairmen, who held a meeting on Oct. 14th, at which they expressed their sentiments on the peace program and how they thought Local 10 would be affected.

The resolution served as a basis for discussion. While no official action could be taken at the Good and Welfare meeting, since it was called only for the purpose of discussion, the sentiments of the cutters, nevertheless, could be sensed as each of the ten speakers spoke.

The rank and file of the membership at the well-attended meeting plainly showed their accord with the resolution of the chairmen, which calls for the preservation of Local 10's traditions, and their determination to perpetuate the respect and prestige which the cutters have gained for themselves in the industry.

### Must Consider Craft Differences

The subject of proportional representation assumed the forefront in the discussion of all of the speakers, for to the cutters this question is of vital importance. Some of the speakers in favor of this question spoke in glowing terms of the need for the unification of the workers.

At the outset, those against this form of representation in the Joint Board stated that in theory no objection could be advanced against it. It was in the practical application of this proposition that the cutter is vitally affected. Many instances were cited by some of the rank and file of the members present when the interests of the cutters were involved and when a determined effort had to be put up by the cutters to preserve them.

It was pointed out that many of the conditions under which cutters are employed were instituted long before the organization of the International. And the maintenance of these conditions was necessary because of the peculiarities of the cutting trade.

Even when, as Isidore Nagler pointed out, a demand was made by the cloak employers before the Governor's Commission for cutters to work under the same system as the operators, that is, by the day instead of by the week, only the opposition of the cutters' organization to this plan proved that the nature of the cutting trade differs from other crafts, finally saved this condition for the cutters.

### Traces History of Local

During the course of his discussion against proportional representation, Manager Dubinsky traced the history of the cutters' organization to the present day and showed how the members fared under a system which gave the operators a greater say over the Union.

Only one interpretation could be made when one thinks back upon this phase of Local 10's history and that is that it was an organization dominated by a certain craft to the exclusion of another.

Then there followed a period during which time Local 10 affiliated itself with the Joint Board and established itself as a power, determined to exploit that power for interests of the cutters.

Those favoring proportional representation, among whom were Berlin, Bernstein and Supin, and who developed its theoretic aspects, in an effort to arouse the sympathies of the cutters, said much to the effect that the members of the Union could be made to defend as a whole their common interests.

Dubinsky, however, cited concrete

instances which went to prove that in the practical application of this statement the contrary was found to be the case. Beginning with some time in 1921, when Local 10 began assuming its position of importance in the Union, and when it set about raising the level of the cutters' earnings capacity to a degree more or less equal to that of the operators, there was considerable opposition on the part of this class of workers to the steps which the cutters began making in their demand for a better wage.

It was fortunate, however, that Local 10 did secure its position if importance as an organization in the Joint Board. Were it not for this fact the cutters would not have made the gains, especially as respects wages, which they enjoy today. This was ample evidence of the fact that a craft, too, must be given the opportunity to build up an organization to be worthy of consideration.

"The interest of the cutter," Dubinsky said in conclusion, "depends greatly upon his position in the Joint Board. It is true that change took place recently in our Union, but Local 10 cannot be a fifth wheel to the wagon. The fact that the cutters' local has a smaller membership than that of some other locals does not mean that it is not to be accorded the same rights, on equal terms, with the other locals."

"We are one of the most respected locals, a local which has gained for itself considerable prestige through its activity in the Union and the industry, and we must maintain our position for the good of our members. During the entire three months of the recent upheaval in the Union the cutters have met their obligations to the Union, and have observed its rules. "The cutters have built up one of the finest organizations. They have their problems and these must be dealt with in the light of their needs in preference to the desires of other elements."

### Joint Board a Business Administration

Nagler sought to differentiate between the functions of the International and the Joint Board. The first, he said, is a law-making body and the second is administrative. "Those composing the administrative body," he said, "are equal partners to the or-

ganization which administers the business of the Union.

"This is not a theoretical question, but a vitally practical one for the cutters. The interests of the cutters will fall flat under a system of proportional representation in the Joint Board. Under such a system some crafts compelling the Joint Board, in their relation to the business of the Union, would be deprived of their rights."

"The cutters, too, are entitled to protection and the care of their interests. The conditions which they have gained for themselves are held dear by them, as far instance the double payment for overtime and the system of week work. We do not want to institute universally the system of day work. It must be remembered that a cutter can cut enough work in less than a week to supply operators with a full week's work. Hence, the cutters, too, are entitled to a week's work."

Samuel Perlmuter, during the course of the discussion, remarked that there is a difference between the representation of a craft and a membership. He did not question the need for a solidified organization in questions pertaining to the struggle of the Union against the employers. However, he declared that in the relations of the members on questions affecting the internal affairs of the Union, the members must be dealt with as crafts.

"There are certain fundamental differences that must be recognized," he said, "Self preservation of an prompts operators to act contrary. As manager of the Downtown District, I have very often been compelled to take disciplinary measures against operators who failed to see to it that proper working conditions prevail in their places of employment."

"We cannot apply the theoretic aspect of proportional representation to the practical problems of the cutters. My opinion is that a system of proportional representation will deprive us of the improved conditions that we have gained for ourselves. It would mean that the cutters' membership of about four or five thousand—as workers engaged in an industry we are entitled to an equal opportunity in respect to earning our living, and our say in the Union."

Max Stoller, Harry Shapiro, Kornblum and Kwait and several others of the rank and file spoke firmly against proportional representation as a grave danger for the future existence of Local 10.

### Shop Chairmen Introduce Resolution

The resolution which the cloak and dress shop chairmen drew up as expressing their sentiments on the important issues that developed in the course of the recent upheaval in the Union and which will take up a good deal of the attention of the next convention, follows:

"Resolution adopted by the Shop Chairmen of the Cutters in the Cloak and Dress Trade, in meeting assembled Thursday, October 8, 1925, at 231 East 14th Street:

## SPECIAL NOTICE

### Election of Delegates to 18th Intern'l Convention

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th, 1925,

in ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PLACE

Polls Open from 12:30 to 6 P. M.

"WHEREAS, The Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10, I. L. O. W. U. is in existence for the past twenty-five years and came into being long before the International organization was formed;

"WHEREAS, For a period of twenty-five years the Cutters' Union has demonstrated its ability to cope with conditions and problems peculiar to the cloak trade, even though not properly affiliated with the Joint Board of Cloak and Dress Makers' Union, which was organized in 1910, and

"WHEREAS, For the past five years the Cutters' Union has been able to maintain and improve conditions for the cutters since its affiliation with the Joint-Board in 1910, because of the fact that Local 10 has been recognized by the Joint Board as an important factor in the industry with representation equal to that of any other local in the Joint Board, and

"WHEREAS, The recent price plan included in the Union calls for proportional representation, based upon the numbers of members in each local, thus ignoring craft interests, and that, if enforced, would reduce Local 10 to insignificance and deprive our organization of an equal say on problems affecting the very life of our organization, be it, therefore,

"RESOLVED, That we, the shop chairmen of the Cutters in the Cloak and Dress Industry, assembled at 231 East 14th Street, on Thursday, October 8, 1925, hereby go on record as being opposed to such a plan, and that we will permit locals having larger membership to dominate and control the destinies of our local, and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That we, on record, as favoring the election of officers, including business agents, by the membership of Local 10, which, after all, is best fitted to choose its own representatives; and to elect, or to accept officers imposed upon us by other locals by virtue of general election, which means giving the power to other locals, in view of their greater numbers, to elect officers for Local 10. We are opposed to any form of representation which would deprive us of the rights and privileges we have enjoyed ever since the inception of our organization. We feel that the cutters' local is the most important craft in the industry, is entitled to the same opportunities to live and improve its conditions, in the same sense and degree, as any other local, though it may have a smaller membership."

### Members to Elect Delegates Saturday

On Saturday afternoon, October 24, 1925, the members will participate in the election of delegates to the eighteenth convention of the International. The convention, which opens on November 30th, is perhaps the most important which was held in recent years.

The elections take place in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, this coming Saturday afternoon. The polls will open at 12:30 and close at 6 P. M. The members are called upon to elect nine delegates, which is the quota for Local 10. Every member should make it his business to participate in the election.

The list of candidates appears below in the order in which the various candidates' names will appear on the ballot. It will be noticed that there appear some names of members who have been filed and suspended. In accordance with the decision of the membership, they have submitted their appeals to the General Executive Board. At the time of writing the decision was not known. Hence, the list is subject to revision, pending the final decision by the General Executive Board.

Charles Nemereff, Max Stoller, Samuel Perlmuter, David Dubinsky, Isidore Nagler, Louis Forer, Henry Robin, Sam B. Shenker, Henry Mostover, William Zweibon, Aaron Abramson, Maurice W. Jacobs, Harry Reichel, Irving Horowitz, Max Bernstein, Philip Ansel, Louis Pankin, Harry Berlin, Jacob Lakin, Louis Polonsky, Max Arnold, Isaac Harenblatt, David Dolnicoff, Isidore Gize, Jack Kops, Sam Mendelowitz.

## CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Regular and Special Meeting . . . . . Monday, October 26th

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place  
Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.